इसमें सरकार की गाइडेंस भी चाहिए कि सरकार क्या चाहती है और सदन की क्या भावना है। लेकिन इस डिसीजन को लेने से पहले सोचना पड़ेगा कि साउथ अफ्रीका का जो बोर्ड है वह बराबर हम लोगों की बात का समर्थन कर रहा है। लेकिन इस तरह के रेफ्री को आगे इस तरह का काम नहीं दिया जाएगा, इस तरह की जिम्मेदारी नहीं दी जाएगी इस तरह का एश्युरेंस होना चाहिए तथा आई.सी.सी. से हमारी मांग होनी चाहिए।

Proposed sale of some paintings of Nandlal Bose by National Museum

PROF. (SHRIMATI) BHARATI RAY (West Bengal): Sir, I want to draw your kind attention to a report about the proposed sale of some paintings of Nandlal Bose, a celebrated artist, by the National Museum. The Museum, understandably, needs money. But it must find other sources of funding. The Museum may sell some paintings of lesser known artists. But who will sell a Picasso? Nandlal Bose is not only a famous name in the world of art, but his works are also of a vital significance to this nation. A nationalist to the core, a gem of the artistic Renaissance of India, Nandlal Bose actively participated in the Civil Disobedience Movement of 1930. Gandhiji regarded him as the main exponent of India's 'modern' 'national' art. The Indian National Congress sessions of 1936, 1937 and 1938 were decorated by his visuals. At the Haripura Congress, he painted a large number of panels where he described the lives of the masses of India. He also founded the *Kalabhavan*, India's first major indigenous School of Art, as distinguished from the art schools founded by the British to propagate their own preferences. To sell the paintings of Nandlal Bose is to sell our national heritage. One other point, I remember seeing an exhibition of Leonardo da Vinci's paintings. By the side of his famous horse, there were a number of paintings of one leg of a horse or two legs of a horse. These pieces are essential sources for study and research by artists/ art historians. They need to be preserved in one place. If sold, they will be scattered and may be lost. I, therefore, request the Minister of Culture, who is fortunately present here, not to sell the paintings of Nandlal Bose, to reconsider the proposal and not to deal a blow to the national heritage.

SHRIMATI SHABANA AZMI: I associate myself with what Prof. Bharati Ray has said.

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAGMOHAN): I fully appreciate the weight of your argument, and I assure you that they would not be put on sale. We would preserve them. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI S. VIDUTHALAI VIRUMBI (Tamil Nadu): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am on a point of information. The DMK Members had sent a memorandum

to the Minister of Environment and Forests regarding the issue mentioned in Item No. 15 of the Special Mentions. ...*(Interruptions)*... The Hon. Minister had replied that ...*(Interruptions)*... The Hon. Minister had assured us that ...*(Interruptions)*... One minute please. ...*(Interruptions)*... I don't want to counter them. ...*(Interruptions)*... That is why I did not stand up then. Sir, we had given a memorandum to the Hon. Minister for Environment and Forests regarding the item mentioned at No. 15 of the Special Mentions. The Minister had given us an assurance...*(Interruptions)*... The Minister had given us an assurance that he had already constituted a Committee to enquire into the matter and to see that the interests of the fishermen are safeguarded. ...*(Interruptions)*... The Minister had given us an assurance that the concern of the fishermen would be addressed ...*(Interruptions)*... Thank you, Sir, for allowing me.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, it is seven minutes to one.

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE: We can adjourn for lunch.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The House is adjourned till 2 O' clock.

The House then adjourned for lunch at fifty-three minutes past twelve of the clock, till two of the clock.

The House reassembled after lunch, at two minutes past two of the clock, the DEPUTY CHAIRMAN in the Chair.

SHORT DURATION DISCUSSION

International situation arising out of terrorists attack on WTC in USA leading to International intervention in Afghanistan, its impact on India and its ramifications and response of Government in regard thereto

DR. MANMOHAN SINGH (Assam): Madam, with your permission, I beg to raise a discussion on the international situation arising out of the terrorists attack on WTC in USA leading to international intervention in Afghanistan, its impact on India and its ramifications, and the response of Government in regard thereto. Madam, Lord Curzon once described Afghanistan as the cockpit of Asia. Big-power-rivalries in Afghanistan have always been a factor to reckon with because of its geo-strategic location. In recent times, the discovery of oil and gas in the Central Asian Republics, the fact that oil and gas pipelines may have to pass through Afghanistan, has further intensified the big-power-rivalries in and around Afghanistan. More recently, the tragic events of 11th September, 2001, in which nearly